

## **STATEWIDE INDEPENDENT LIVING COUNCIL**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Radisson Hotel, Bismarck, ND**

**Thursday, February 12, 2015**

**Call to Order:** Dennis called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

**Roll Call: Members Present:** Trevor Vannett, Erik Willaimson, Bill Willis, Larry Thiele, Diane Secaniec, Rod Gillund, Sandra Koffler, Emma Leigh Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Peter Yung, & Melvin Erdmann.

**Members Absent:** Jen Schill, Nate Aalgaard, Scott Burlingame, Brittany Hogan & Jamie Hall.

**Others Present:** Royce Schultze, Randy Sorenson, Patty Wanner, Russ Cusack and Helen Baumgartner

**FYI:** Dennis presented information to the SILC regarding the service AARP has available to do taxes for free – no age or income limits. Preparers are certified by the IRS – they need to take a test to be certified.

**Approval of Minutes:** Rod made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Erik. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:** Peter made a motion to renew our membership with NCIL at a cost of \$143, seconded by Rod. Motion passed.

Funding freeze: Part B funds will be frozen and general funds will be used through May 8<sup>th</sup> as the IL Program transitions to the Administration on Community Living.

**Speaker** – Harley Engelman from KAT Communications – shared information on the DHS InfoNet System. Good Health TV is an advertisement free system with a broad range of topics on health and wellness topics. On Jan 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015, DHS launched Good Health TV in the Human Service Centers across the state. Good Health TV is in 20 states. DHS contracts a half hour block of the broadcast time and KAT Communications controls a half hour. DHS & KAT intertwine the information broadcasted together. The purpose of Good Health TV is to educate and entertain the people watching. Visual presentations are from 30 seconds to 3-4 minutes in length. DHS has created 10 videos on such topics as Medicaid 101, MFP, Communication Tips, What Happens in a HSC, etc. The goal is to have these videos online by the end of June when the contract expires. Good Health TV can be an avenue for the CILs to create programming to educate the public on IL services. Entities such as the CILs who contract with DHS will have their videos run free; if there is not a contract, there is a fee to run the video on the DHS system. Two thirds of the screen is for watching the educational video and one third is used as a message board to share the events that are happening in the community. The price to put a system into the CILs would be the same as it was for DHS. The cost to produce a video would run between \$5,000 - \$6,000.

**Speaker** – Sandra DePountis, Assistant Attorney General, presented information on Open Records and Open Meeting Laws. A handout of the information presented was given to all members.

**Committee Breakout Meetings:** Committees met until their business was completed.

**Friday, February 13, 2015**

**Call to Order:** Dennis called the meeting to order at 9:10 am.

**Roll Call: Members Present:** Trevor Vannett, Erik Willaimson, Larry Thiele, Diane Secaniec, Rod Gillund, Sandra Koffler, Emma Leigh Kotzer, Dennis Lyon, Peter Yung, Scott Burlingame, Brittany Hogan & Melvin Erdmann.

**Members Absent:** Jen Schill, Nate Aalgaard, Bill Willis & Jamie Hall.

**Others Present:** Royce Schultze, Randy Sorenson, Patty Wanner, Helen Baumgartner & Kristen Hamman, Representative from Senator John Hoeven's office

**Directors Reports:** – **Randy for Options:** Direct Service - over 200 people were assisted to stay in their homes and be a part of the community. In the area of Civil Rights, several people and organizations were assisted with ADA info on home accessibility, where to access funding, etc. Assisted with employment rights and EEOC issues to maintaining employment. Helped 290 people with their Medicare D Plans. Hired a new trainer – Paula Ost. MFP – assisted 2 people out of the nursing home and prevented 3 people from entry.

**Royce for Dakota:** SB2012 – DHS bill - 3.65 billion total budget for DHS. There is a request for a 4% inflation rate per biennium for service providers. There is a bill requesting that everyone with disabilities who work should be entitled to a minimum wage. Some employers are able to pay less than minimum wage due to their employer status. There are several bills related to affordable/accessible housing. Waiting lists are up to 1200 people to get into housing. There are also bills relating to TBI. Dakota has a legislative working group that meets every Tues. It is the most active group ever. Dakota had a booth for the Homeless Coalition and yesterday for Disability Awareness day at the Capitol. Assisted the Homeless Coalition in a point of time survey. Staff spent time at the library to see if there was anyone there who was homeless. A bullying presentation was given to the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades and 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades in Glen Ullin. There are several other schools scheduled to hear the presentation. There have been AT presentations in several small communities at the Senior Centers. MFP is really busy. Since Oct 1<sup>st</sup>, there have been 6 transitions. There is one nursing home who has never given a referral.

**Scott for Independence:** SB2012 includes an additional \$500,000 for IL funding. This is possible because the CILs have developed a relationship with the Governor's office through the years. Scott spoke for the centers this year. The goal is statewide coverage of IL services which would require each Center to get funded at \$600,000. The CILs were able to open new branch offices in Harvey, Bottineau and Lisbon with the funding last year – 13 counties are currently unserved and 15 underserved. This is the time to send letters to the legislators asking for support of IL. MFP – Minot is the hardest to transition people from in the area. Have hired a Program Director – Jamie Hart who was the Transition Specialist. There is currently some shifting of staff positions going on. There is work being done to create a new position for MFP and non-MFP transitions. The only position open at the present time is for a Nursing Facility Transition Coordinator. Community Services – Will be celebrating 20 year anniversary this summer. Would like to have some type of celebration in every county. Will also be celebrating ADA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Annie's House is a ski lodge in Bottineau which provides accessible recreation for people with disabilities. Staff have gone up to discuss a partnership. Independence now has staff on Annie's House's Board of Directors. A partnership has been established with their skiing event and Independence will be a part of the fishing event this summer. Had a Chili Cook-off as a fundraiser. The staff and the BOD brought the chili. There was media coverage from KMOT TV. This event was a lot of fun, raising \$300. The plan is to grow it in the future. Community collaboration – participated in about 24 different community activities. Focusing on diversifying services. Youth transition is going well, so the focus will be on working on better serves for people with Mental Health issues and adults. Systems advocacy – Senator Larson asked Scott to be a part of making a change to the transportation system in Minot. He hosted a transportation meeting to discuss how transportation can be improved in the community. There was lots of stress in the room, but there is ongoing efforts to make improvements.

**Diane for Freedom:** – (this is not an official Director's Report ☺) MFP is very busy and helpful to people. Diane is working with a 27 year old who was going to be put in a nursing home and have her 5 year old child taken away. Freedom is planning an ADA celebration and Freedom's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Freedom made a video for Giving Hearts. Will be teaching an art class and it is already full. There are lots of requests for more activities related to art. Will be hiring another person to work with MFP. Freedom rose over \$9,000 during the Giving Hearts Day.

**Internal Affairs Committee:** Dennis informed the SILC of a data collection system developed by Michigan which gives a weekly update on statewide activities. The committee is active on all tasks listed on the SPIL grid. Dennis recommend the SILC continue to have representation at SILC Congress.

Randy - CILs struggle with what it really costs to serve people within a certain geographical area across the state. He provided information on an IL funding formula system for the state of ND. An estimate of \$8,000 was quoted to have this analysis done. Rod made a motion to use any remaining SILC operation funds to fund this project, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane. Motion carried with all voting yes and 1 CIL Director abstaining from voting.

**Speaker:** Teresa Larson – Director of P&A spoke on the 2015 Legislative Session. She handed out a Disabilities–related Legislation list. Discussion was held on the status of some of the bills. Many things are being looked at to cut at this time. On March 18<sup>th</sup> the funding forecast will come out; at that time there will be a chance to relook at things that may be cut. With all the houses being built now, it would be the time to go talk with the construction workers about visitability. Rather than waiting for the next session, P&A would like to work with the SILC to try to get more accessible transportation across the state. Efforts will be made to try to develop a committee consisting of representation from the SILC, SRC, DD, P&A, CILs and a rep from the DOT to discuss the transportation needs across the state. Randy will get the name of the Transportation Coordinator to Teresa and she will begin the collaboration process.

**Governance Committee:** We have a full council and are waiting for the reappointment approvals. Regular Governance Committee meetings have been scheduled through the next year. The annual survey of council members to see how they feel about their participation on the SILC will be done at the next meeting to update the SPIL grid.

**External Affairs Committee:** – Need to work on providing services to people on reservations. To meet this goal, the May meeting could be held on a reservation or have someone from the reservation come to speak. Also need to work on accessible transportation statewide. It was suggested that we have someone involved with transportation speak at the May meeting.

**SRC Meeting:** Russ shared information on WIOA, especially pre-employment service for transition – 15% of the federal grant needs to be used in this area. Competitive integrated employment, subminimum wage & employer services were also discussed. Harley is the Chair of the SRC.

**Region 8 SILC Conference Call:** Scheduled for Feb 27<sup>th</sup>. The 121 rep on the SILC is no longer a requirement unless there is a CIL on the reservation. There is a SILC standards and indicators input survey being circulated for comments.

**Treasurer's Report:** Melvin gave the Treasurer's Report.

Rod made a motion to have Trevor designated as the liaison between the SILC and DD Council, seconded by Emma. All voted Yes with Trevor abstaining.

Dennis passed out a training needs survey from ILRU.

**Adjourn:** Trevor made a motion to adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 12:40.